

PATRIOTIC HOLIDAYS AND OBSERVANCES



LESSON SUMMARY

BENCHMARK
SS.K.CG.2.3 <i>Define patriotism as the allegiance to one's country.</i>
BENCHMARK CLARIFICATIONS
<ul style="list-style-type: none">■ Students will identify patriotic holidays and observances (e.g., American Founders Month, Celebrate Freedom Week, Constitution Day, Independence Day, Martin Luther King Jr. Day, Medal of Honor Day, Memorial Day, Patriot Day, Veterans Day).■ Students will recognize that the Pledge of Allegiance is an oath that affirms American values and freedom.■ Students will identify "I pledge allegiance to the flag of the United States of America and to the republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all" as the Pledge of Allegiance.
CORRELATED FLORIDA STANDARDS
<ul style="list-style-type: none">■ ELA.K.C.4.1: <i>Recall information to answer a question about a single topic.</i>■ ELA.K.V.1.1: <i>Use grade-level academic vocabulary appropriately in speaking and writing.</i>■ HE.K.R.1.3: <i>Describe ways to show respect to others.</i>■ HE.K.R.4.2: <i>Identify the importance of sharing thoughts and ideas to solve problems.</i>■ HE.K.R.3.1: <i>Identify the roles and responsibilities of trusted adults.</i>
ESSENTIAL QUESTION
What are important days to remember in the United States?
VOCABULARY
holiday, patriotism
MATERIALS
<ul style="list-style-type: none">■ Patriotic Holidays and Observances slides■ Anchor chart (optional)

ACTIVITY SEQUENCE

INTRODUCTION/HOOK

Teacher Note: *The information given in the slides of this lesson will cover all the patriotic holidays and observances for the entire school year. This includes the ones listed in this benchmark, but also others required through other various state statutes and mandates. Each holiday is designed to be taught in isolation from the others and offers facts and grade-level takeaways. Here is a printable “Patriotic Holidays and Observances” list with all the dates so the teacher may plan and prepare ahead of time. Teacher may type information directly on slides if preferred or print the photos from the slide to design their own anchor charts*

1. Pull up the “Patriotic Holidays and Observances” slides.
2. Gather the students and introduce the word “patriotism” to them using slide #2. (This concept may be repeated before each holiday as needed.)
3. Explain that patriotism is the love, loyalty, and respect (allegiance) someone has for their country. Add that over the school year, we are going to learn about important holidays that are patriotic or important for us as a country to remember and/or celebrate.

ACTIVITY

4. Go to the holiday/observance slide for today’s lesson.
5. Identify the holiday/observance for the students and review why the day is important to know and remember. Generate thoughtful discussion around the learning and how it applies to them as students.

Teacher Note: *The speaker notes at the bottom of each slide are to be used as discussion points while engaging with your students about the holidays listed.*

CLOSURE/FORMATIVE ASSESSMENT

6. As each holiday is wrapped up, there is an additional slide prompting a connection to the students with a “Civics Challenge”. These are suggested ways to engage your students beyond the holiday lesson and even connect back to other civics benchmarks. You may use the suggested discussions or create your own.

Teacher Note: *Students’ ability to identify/name each holiday or observance should be assessed informally during instruction. The “Civics Challenge” is intended as a supplemental application for linking the holiday’s lesson to the students’ lives and other benchmarks. At the end of the slides, there is a template for an ongoing anchor chart option so the students can keep track of the holidays and observances that they’ve learned throughout the year. Also, remember that the Independence Day holiday will need to be taught before the end of the school year as it falls in July.*

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

FJCC/LFI Website

Supporting Florida State Statutes:

- [Florida State Statute 1003.42: Required Instruction](#)

ANSWER KEYS

n/a

SOURCES

n/a